

1. ~~Mr Muston~~
2. ~~Mr Morley~~ Parry
3. ~~Mr Perry~~

~~B.445~~
A.421
A.405

BROMYARD RURAL DISTRICT

Herefordshire

Joint
ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health
and of the
Public Health Inspector
for the year 1969



MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

(As at 31st December 1969)

J.H. WALLER (Chairman of the Council)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Winslow
D.H. EVANS (Vice-Chairman of the Council)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Bromyard
J.T. ARNETT	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Stoke Lacy
H.S. BAYLISS	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Bromyard
Major M.A. BELLVILLE (Chairman of the Health and Development Committee)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Tedstone Delanere
Mrs. J.M. BIBBINGS	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Cradley
G.J. BOWLER	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Bishops Frome
R.G. BRADLEY	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Cradley
V.L. BRIGDEN	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Cradley
R.G. CARTER	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Thornbury with Hampton Charles
D.V. COOKE	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Cradley
J.F. COTTON	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Felton
V.O. COX	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Norton
F.C.L. ESSENHIGH	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Brockhampton
O.H.M. HERFORD	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Bredenbury
H.C.C. HODGES	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Avenbury
A.L. JAMES	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Whitbourne
J. JAMES	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Bromyard
S. MEREDITH	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ocle Pychard
Commander E.A. NICHOLSON	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Edvin Loach, Saltmarshe and Tedstone Wafre
W.D. PORTER	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Acton Beauchamp
Mrs. E.C. POWELL	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Bromyard
J.L. POWELL	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Edwyn Ralph
T.I. POYNER	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ullingswick
T.L. RICHARDS	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Stanford Bishop
Mrs. A.M. ROBINSON	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Linton
Miss M. SHEPHERD	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Whitbourne
O.J.E. SKYRM	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Upper Sapey
D.J. THOMAS (Vice-Chairman of the Health and Development Committee)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Pencombe with Grendon Warren
A.H. VICK	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Bromyard
Mrs. E.M. WALDRON	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Much Cowarne
Rev. W.G. WALTON	Bishops Frome
J.R. WILKINS	Bromyard

Clerk of the Council .. A.C. BISHOP



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To the Chairman and Members of the Bromyard Rural District
Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1969, together with the report of the Public Health Inspector.

The statistical section does not contain anything out of the ordinary; even the higher than average infant mortality rate relates only to a very small number of cases, which can produce highly abnormal figures.

The Surveyor's report on Housing and Development gives a very full and interesting account of his views on this matter and should be read with interest.

My thanks are due to Mr. Worsdall for his help and cooperation during the past year, and I am glad to welcome Mr. Gilling who has joined us from Tenbury, as Assistant Public Health Inspector and Deputy Surveyor.

G.D.K. NEEDHAM

Medical Officer of Health

G.D.K. NEEDHAM, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health,

Westfield Walk,

LEOMINSTER.

(Telephone: Leominster 2049)

N.E. WORSDALL,

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector.

W.R.H. GILLING,

Deputy Surveyor and Assistant Public Health Inspector.
(Appointed from 1st March, 1970).

Council Offices,

BROMYARD.

(Telephone: Bromyard 2341)

Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health: C.A. PREECE

STATISTICS AND VITAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	61,327
Estimated mid-year home population	8,570
Average number of persons per acre	0.14
Number of inhabited houses	2,750
Average number of inhabited houses per acre	0.04
Average number of persons per house	3.1
Rateable Value	£209,186
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£810

LIVE AND STILL BIRTHSLive Births

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	45	67	112
Illegitimate	4	6	10
	<hr/> 49 <hr/>	<hr/> 73 <hr/>	<hr/> 122 <hr/>

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

Comparability factor: 1.14	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Bromyard R.D. (Crude)	14.2	12.3	17.1	13.6	14.6
* " " (Adjusted)	16.2	14.0	20.1	14.0	16.7
England and Wales	16.3	16.9	17.2	17.7	18.1

Illegitimate Live Births

Per cent of total live births:

Bromyard R.D. ..	8.0
England and Wales ..	8.0

Still Births

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	-	1	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births:

	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Bromyard R.D.	8.0	18.5	13.4	33.1	7.9
England and Wales	13.0	14.3	14.8	15.3	15.8

* it is not possible to include the old U.D. figures in the adjusted birth rates for the years 1965-7.

INFANT DEATH RATESEarly Neonatal MortalityDeaths of Infants under 1 week old

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	3	1	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Early Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births:

Bromyard R.D.	..	33.0
England and Wales	..	10.0

Neonatal MortalityDeaths of Infants under 4 weeks old

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	3	1	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births:

Bromyard R.D.	..	33.0
England and Wales	..	12.0

Perinatal MortalityStill Births and Deaths of Infants under 1 week old

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	3	2	5
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births:

Bromyard R.D.	..	41.0
England and Wales	..	23.0

Infant MortalityDeaths of Infants under 1 year of age

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	3	1	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 related live births:

	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Bromyard R.D. (Total	33.0	9.4	6.8	34.2	16.0
(Legitimate	36.0	9.8	7.5	28.0	18.0
(Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil	100.0	Nil
England & Wales (Total	18.0	18.3	18.3	19.0	19.0

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Total number of Maternal Deaths .. Nil

Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births:

Bromyard R.D.	..	Nil
England and Wales	..	*

DEATHS

	Males	Females	Total
Total deaths from all causes:	55	54	109
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:			
Comparability factor: 0.79	1969	1968	1967 1966 1965
Bromyard R.D. (Crude)	12.7	14.3	9.9 15.6 10.5
** " " (Adjusted)	10.0	9.6	8.7 14.0 16.7
England and Wales	11.9	11.9	11.2 11.7 11.5

Cancer

	Males	Females	Total
Total deaths from Malignant Disease:	12	7	19
Cancer Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:			
	1969	1968	1967 1966 1965
Bromyard R.D.	2.22	2.90	1.75 3.38 1.17
England and Wales	*	2.27	2.27 2.25 2.23

Cardio-Vascular Disease

	Males	Females	Total
Total deaths from Cardio-Vascular Disease:	20	32	52

*figures not yet available.

**it is not possible to include the old U.D. figures in the adjusted death rates for the years 1965-7.

Cardio-Vascular Disease (Continued)

Cardio-Vascular Disease Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Bromyard R.D.	6.07	7.66	5.59	7.34	7.36
England and Wales	*	6.06	5.77	5.97	5.95

Respiratory Disease (excluding Tuberculosis)

	Males	Females	Total
Total deaths from Respiratory Disease:	9	4	13

Respiratory Disease Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Bromyard R.D.	1.52	2.10	0.70	1.63	1.40
England and Wales	*	1.75	1.37	1.60	1.41

*figures not yet available.

CAUSES OF DEATH (all ages)

	Males	Females	Total
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	-	3
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	2	-	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	-	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1
Other malignant neoplasms	5	3	8
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	-	1	1
Diabetes Mellitus	1	1	2
Mental disorders	-	2	2
Other diseases of nervous system etc.	-	4	4
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	1	1	2
Hypertensive disease	1	2	3
Ischaemic heart disease	11	9	20
Other forms of heart disease	1	1	2
Cerebrovascular disease	4	13	17
Other diseases of circulatory system	2	2	4
Influenza	2	1	3
Pneumonia	1	3	4
Bronchitis and emphysema	5	-	5
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-	1
Peptic ulcer	1	-	1
Other diseases of digestive system	3	-	3
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-	2
Other diseases, genito-urinary system	2	2	4
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	-	1	1
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	1	-	1
Other causes of perinatal mortality	2	1	3
Motor vehicle accidents	-	1	1
All other accidents	2	3	5

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASEBromyard Rural District

Disease	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Whooping Cough	-	-	6	13	1
Measles	22	29	90	34	57
Scarlet Fever	2	1	2	1	-
Acute Encephalitis:					
Post-Infectious	-	1	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	1	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	41	2
Food Poisoning	1	1	-	1	2
Tuberculosis:					
Pulmonary	-	-	2	1	-
Non-Pulmonary	1	1	-	-	1

North Herefordshire

Whooping Cough	4	18	47	37	5
Measles	35	526	314	271	525
Scarlet Fever	4	11	11	29	12
Acute Encephalitis:					
Infective	-	-	-	2	-
Post-Infectious	-	1	-	-	-
+Infective Jaundice	106	8	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	1	-	-
Dysentery	1	17	285	92	6
Food Poisoning	9	6	10	9	8
Tuberculosis:					
Pulmonary	4	1	3	4	8
Non-Pulmonary	2	3	2	3	3

+Notifiable from 15.6.68.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN NORTH HEREFORDSHIRE DURING THE YEAR 1969

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
Whooping Cough	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Measles	7	-	1	1	3	-	14	8	1	-	-	-	35
Scarlet Fever	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	4
Infective Jaundice	-	-	11	21	26	15	13	3	10	3	1	3	106
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	5	-	-	9
Tuberculosis:													
Pulmonary	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	4
Non-Pulmonary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2

COMPARATIVE CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Disease	North Here- fordshire	England & Wales
Whooping Cough	0.11	0.10
Measles	0.95	2.91
Scarlet Fever	0.11	0.33
Infective Jaundice	2.86	0.48
Dysentery	0.03	0.45
Food Poisoning	0.24	0.15
Tuberculosis:		
Pulmonary	0.11	0.20
Non-Pulmonary	0.05	0.05

TUBERCULOSIS

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Number on Register at 31st December, 1968.	18	20	5	6
New cases notified	-	-	-	1
Recovered	1	-	-	-
Number on Register at 31st December, 1969.	17	20	5	7

Year	New Notifications	Total cases on Register	Deaths	Recoveries
1965	1	56	-	1
1966	1	54	-	2
1967	2	49	1	5
1968	1	49	-	-
1969	-	49	-	1

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, Section 47
NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (Amendment) ACT, 1951

No action needed to be taken under this section during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S SECTION OF REPORTPRIVATE HOUSING AND MISCELLANEOUS DEVELOPMENT

There are two small signs of things to come in the field of private housing. A nationally known building construction firm has shown interest in one or two parishes within the area and negotiations have opened for the purchase of one site; also that part of the parish of Winslow bordering on Bromyard has become the focus of attention and towards the year end there began to emerge what has come to be known as the Northern Development Scheme for Bromyard. This was referred to in the last Annual Report, and in large measure ties up with the Council's activities regarding sewers and sewage disposal for the Bromyard area.

With the encouragement of the County Planning Authority, a study has been undertaken by the R.D.C., into the problems involved in providing sewerage, access and communications to the northern area. Considerations for private development in the northern area could not be divorced from smaller areas of infill building which appear to be possible in the rest of Bromyard; neither could they be separated from the industrial development which the Council have sought to attract to the area in the last two years and is evidenced by the activity on the old railway station and at the old refuse site now renamed Three Mills Trading Estate. Three different firms were well established on these sites by the year end, and another company was in the process of constructing a factory; two more firms were due to follow in the Spring. Having reached the point where they had disposed of all land available for industrial purposes the Council had to direct its attention to the proposition either to buy more land for that purpose or to cry "halt". In the event the Council took the view that there could be no going back at this stage and your officers were directed to pursue diligently the Council's wishes to gain possession of a further nine acres or so; if these negotiations were to prove successful the Three Mills Trading Estate and access road would be further developed.

Finding firms willing to take sites of the order of half to three-quarters of an acre has proved extremely interesting and the Council and its officers have followed a deliberate policy of trying to be helpful to any person enquiring. Nevertheless, both the Planning Authority and the Rural Council reserve the right to refuse to sell land to a developer whom they feel would provide an industry not wholly in keeping with the neighbourhood. The help which the Council is prepared to give extends beyond the exchange of a plot of land, but also to the provision of all mains services, to help with Council housing or with mortgage facilities, or even with loans in certain cases to assist with the construction of the industrial premises.

PRIVATE HOUSING AND MISCELLANEOUS DEVELOPMENT (Continued)

Private development elsewhere in the Rural area is still extremely slow but this is welcomed by many people who for various reasons fear the influx of commuters on a massive scale. On the basis of the present County Development Plan, large scale building is a non-starter anyway. There would appear to be good grounds for believing that the slowness of private construction in 1969 was largely attributable to high interest rates and general mortgage difficulties.

Change of another nature has come to the front during 1969 by way of a proposal to set up a Countryside Park. By the end of the year a working party of several interested bodies had begun to feel its way through the problem. Developments of this sort like the industrial proposals, present interesting problems and seem completely at variance with usual Rural Council affairs.

Many thinking people throughout the Country feel that ever increasing areas of land should be made available for week-end leisure, that advantage should be taken in the first instance of so-called open land and that encroachment on good enclosed agricultural land should only be contemplated as a last resort. Within this definition it is clear that the area of Bromyard Downs, including Bringsty, is an obvious choice and well situated in relation to the Midlands conurbation to receive its full quota of visitors, providing the weather is suitable. Already these visitors are coming and although this may cause disappointment to persons living on or near the Common who have hitherto enjoyed the solitude of the country, it would appear to be in the interests of the whole area for the Council (or the County Council) to make the most of what could prove to be a considerable asset.

During the twelve months to the 31st December 1969, 51 private dwellings were completed within the Rural area and there were a further 71 under construction.

PUBLICALLY OWNED HOUSING

Much to the sorrow of the Council, 1969 was marked by the news that the main contractor for the 45 dwellings at The Leys at Cradley was in some financial difficulties. Perhaps the Council were fortunate to a certain extent that the dwellings were occupied but the completion of outstanding items together with the rectification of defective work or materials proved a headache. In spite of this, the records show that 45 dwellings were completed at Cradley and a further three at Pippin Green, Acton Beauchamp.

The Leys estate is of the most modern design, with no gardens and with pedestrian access to the dwellings; it has a warden for 21 bungalows and flats occupied by welfare cases, and there are another 23 dwellings for general occupation. Of these 23, one house has been let to the Herefordshire County Council for occupation by a District Nurse.

PUBLICALLY OWNED HOUSING (Continued)

With Cradley, the Council now employ a total of three old peoples wardens who are responsible for dwellings as follows:

Kirkham Garden, Bromyard	32
Holme Oaks, Ocle Pychard	12
The Leys, Cradley	21

These three estates are provided with every modern convenience including central heating, communal laundry facilities, intercom telephones, and at two of the estates, community rooms and visitors bedrooms.

Your officer in his capacity as housing manager is in no doubt that further schemes of this nature will be called for, but emphasizes that they ought to be sited at Bromyard, where all the ancillary services are readily available, e.g., Church, Public Houses, Shops, 'buses, meeting halls, and above all, company for the old people. It is also true to say that there are many people in the age group 65 - 70 living in accommodation well below modern standards, sometimes damp and occasionally with large gardens, some of whom are stubbornly refusing to entertain a move, but others, through the force of national and local propaganda, are beginning to take an interest and would no doubt make a move if the opportunity arose. It is simply tragic to find people at the end of their working life who have remained loyal to their cottage, after a short period of retirement realising that circumstances have so changed they are no longer at peace with their old dwelling, only to find that they have to join the bottom of a lengthy waiting list, with the added anxiety that they may not live long enough to reach their turn.

The Building and Works Committee has been given the task of beginning another building programme, and that body will very shortly be asked to decide on types of dwellings to be provided. There is no doubt they will give due regard to the demands of the elderly, bearing in mind that in all probability when an elderly person is rehoused, the house so vacated may be available to a younger couple who, with the help of the greatly increased improvement grants, might well be able to make a satisfactory home within the limits of their income.

During the year 1969 the Council pursued their interest in lower category cottages by the purchase of another pair at Bishops Frome and a single one at Fromes Hill.

There was also continued activity in trying to secure land for new building at Bishops Frome and at Ullingswick; land at Bromyard and Whitbourne is held for housing purposes and building in those parishes may be expected in 1971, by which time sewerage facilities will have been laid on to the sites.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

The Housing Act 1969, has brought far reaching changes to the system of improvement grants. For some time the emphasis had gradually shifted towards standard grants at the expense of discretionary grants, possibly because standard grants involved slightly less red tape or it may be that the old maximum of £400 for discretionary grant had begun to lose its attraction with the ever increasing costs of building.

The considerable rise to £1,000 and the inclusion of certain amount of repair, almost immediately meant an increase in enquiries for the larger grant as compared with the standard grant. In the office, every endeavour is made to carry out the Ministry's wish that standard grants should only be encouraged where the dwelling was reasonably fit and the building work was limited to the standard amenities.

Much local publicity has been generated but somehow the response has not been overwhelming.

The statistics for the year are:

(a) Discretionary Grants

No. of houses in respect of which applications were made:	10
Outstanding at December 1968:	2
No. of houses in respect of which grants were offered:	8
No. of houses in respect of which applications were outstanding at December 1969:	4
Total grant offered in respect of above works:	£5,548. 7.11d.

(b) Standard Grants

No. of houses in respect of which applications were made:	41
No. of applications outstanding at December 1968:	1
No. of houses in respect of which applications were approved:	36
No. of houses in respect of which applications were withdrawn or refused:	2
The value of grants paid during the year:	£5,271. 7. 2d.

WATER SUPPLY

Details of connections to properties at the 31st December 1969 are:-

Acton Beauchamp	24	Cradley	328
Avenbury	33	Edvin Loach	1
Bredenbury	11	Edwyn Ralph	40
Brockhampton	3	Evesbatch	13
Collington	4	Bishops Frome	125
Little Cowarne	16	Grendon Bishop	32
Much Cowarne	47	Hampton Charles	2

WATER SUPPLY (Continued)

Linton	73	Tedstone Wafre	16
Moreton Jeffries	1	Thornbury	7
Norton	89	Ullingswick	4
Ocle Pychard	64	Upper Sapey	39
Pencombe	32	Wacton	8
Saltmarshe	1	Whitbourne	107
Stanford Bishop	23	Winslow	75
Stoke Lacy	32	Wolferlow	8
Tedstone Delamere	24	Bromyard	750

Total: 2,032

There is one standpipe situated within the rural area from which the occupants in one to two cottages in an adjoining area take supplies in time of drought.

Periodic sampling of water for bacteriological examination has been carried out during the year, and on every occasion the standard has been satisfactory. A number of samples from private supplies are taken, but each year this work diminishes as the network of water mains spreads.

It is a pleasure to report that during 1969 the Munderfield Hamlet area has been supplied with mains water, and the Herefordshire Water Board advertised tenders for the Stoke Lacy and Ullingswick Scheme early in 1970. When this is completed the whole of the rural area will be covered with a system of trunk mains.

The one major but local difficulty concerns the Sparrington Council House area for which the Water Board are responsible. The practical and financial difficulties for this particular area are considerable and eventually the matter should be resolved by the R.D.C., making a rather large contribution towards the capital cost of a scheme scheduled for completion during 1970.

The statistics given above indicate that 249 additional dwellings have been connected to the present water main system during 1969.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

There are no public swimming baths in the district.

SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

There are three principal areas of success for 1969, two from a practical point of view and a third administratively. The so-called Linton Scheme was very nearly complete by the year end and will bring a much needed facility to a small group of cottages at Linton and also relieve the hospital of a long-standing headache. The other practical success is at Whitbourne, where the Council accepted a contract for a new system of sewers and a modern sewage disposal plant to serve the parish and to cater for a new Council housing site. The actual work began early in the new year and should be completed by the Autumn of 1970.

SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL (Continued)

On the administrative side the Council made great progress with the scheme for the Bromyard Parish, designed to cater for existing flooding problems and also to permit the development of the town in a northern direction. At present prices this scheme should cost very nearly £190,000. There has been disappointment in the inability of your officers to secure the necessary land for the sewage disposal works by free negotiation and the Council have been obliged to resort to their compulsory purchase powers. This is an ever present hazzard where public works are contemplated, and it would seem that compulsory purchase orders may soon become the order of the day bearing in mind the substantial development which is going on all over the country and as this tempo increases the number of willing sellers is likely to diminish.

Maintenance of sewers and sewage disposal works demands more resources year by year and particular attention must now be paid to the smaller installations serving isolated Council house sites. The powers of the Rivers Board are strong and quite properly their interest in preventing pollution of our rivers gets keener.

The Council do not operate their own cesspool emptying service, they contract with a local firm to deal with Council properties but leave it to the ordinary ratepayer to make his own arrangements. This policy seems to have been acceptable, subject to the Council taking positive steps to provide proper sewerage in the villages as soon as mains water arrives. Very soon will arise a demand for facilities for the disposal of the contents of the cesspool emptiers, there being some resistance by the farming interest against the present practice of spreading those contents on farm land. To that end it may be necessary for the Council to provide extentions to their works at Cradley and at Bromyard designed to service privately owned cesspool emptying vehicles.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The collection and disposal contract for all parishes except Bromyard has been renewed for a further three years, based on the paper sack system, with a fortnightly collection to something like 97% of all properties within the area. In the parish of Bromyard the weekly kerbside collection continued, with the exception of two Council estates which are gradually being turned over to the paper sack system.

Disposal by tip continues at Edwyn Ralph and Warren Wood above Bromyard, and efforts are still being made to locate other sites to suit this purpose. Some progress has been made by the decision to purchase a relatively short length of railway cutting just beyond the present hospital with the intention of using it for tipping purposes. At the time of writing this report the proposal is in its interim stage and planning consent has not been sought.

By arrangement with the Herefordshire County Council, scavenging of certain lay-bys in the area and also a certain amount of road sweeping and scavenging in Bromyard parish is being carried out.

MEAT INSPECTION

Routine meat inspection at the one private slaughterhouse has been undertaken by the local veterinary inspector under a financial arrangement made between the occupier of the slaughterhouse and the Council. Details of inspections and condemnations are given below:

(a) Details of animals killed and inspected

Bovines	440
Calves	2
Pigs	843
Sheep and lambs	672

(b) Details of meat and offal condemned

Meat - pork	12
Offal - beef	504
Mutton	-

MISCELLANEOUS FOOD INSPECTION, ETC.

Statistical details are:

(a) Food and Drugs Act

Number of food shops:	73
(i) Complying with Regulation 16:	53
(ii) To which Regulation 19 applies:	12
(iii) Complying with Regulation 19:	12
Number of Public Houses:	35

(b) Slaughter of Animals Act

Number of licensed slaughterhouses in the district:	1
Number of licensed slaughtermen:	11

(c) Poultry Premises NilCARAVAN SITES

There are a few individual sites licensed in the area but apart from this, attention is concentrated on two large holiday caravan sites, one in Bromyard and the other at Saltmarsh, about two miles distant.

The accommodation at both of these sites is high class and the management excellent in every way.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

One set is owned by the Council in the centre of Bromyard and a second set will be constructed in 1970 as part of the Cruxwell Car Park scheme.

FACTORY ACTSInspections

	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sec.1,2,3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by L.A.	18	-	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by L.A.	10	-	-	-
(3) Other Premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by L.A. (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-

Cases in which defects were found: Nil

Outwork (Secs. 133 and 134): 1

RODENT CONTROL

The following notes have been supplied to me by Mr. R. Tristram:

The scheme run by the joint authorities still operates very successfully, and the infestations on properties under contract have been much smaller during the past year.

There has been rather an increase in the mouse population in the areas covered by our authorities, but quite a large number of these were of the long tailed field mice species. The use of a fairly new mouse poison, Alphachloralose, seems to be almost the answer to these infestations: we have found it quite successful.

We have not yet had any cases of Warfarin resistance or super rats as they are called in the press. Perhaps by keeping infestations down to a minimum this problem will not crop up.

During the year we dealt with 350 private inquiries and infestations regarding rats and mice, this is apart from the work done on farms and premises under contract in the four areas.

